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NORTH CAROLINA



COOPERATIVE CROP REPORTING SERVICE

QUESTIONS PERTINENT TO THIS ISSUE

1. THE ESTIMATED CORN YIELD IS ABOVE OR BELOW LAST YEAR'S CROP.
2. WHAT IS THE ESTIMATED PRODUCTION OF ALL N. C. FLUE-CURED TOBACCO?
3. WHAT WAS THE AVERAGE RATE OF LAY PER HEN IN OCTOBER?
4. MILK PRODUCTION PER COW MADE WHAT CHANGE IN OCTOBER?
5. CURRENT INDICATIONS POINT TO A SOYBEAN CROP ABOVE OR BELOW 1948?
6. WHAT IS AVERAGE YIELD PER ACRE FOR SWEETPOTATOES?
7. REVIEW TABLE ON PAGE 3.
8. PASTURE CONDITIONS ARE WHAT PERCENT OF NORMAL?
9. COTTON PROSPECTS ARE FAVORABLE OR UNFAVORABLE?
10. DISCUSS THE FARM LABOR SITUATION.

No. 49

RALEIGH, N. C.

NOVEMBER 15, 1949

NOVEMBER 1, 1949 GENERAL FARM REPORT

GENERAL SITUATION

October was a favorable month for practically all fall farm work. Summer-like weather prevailed throughout the State during the first half of the month. Rainfall generally was light and temperatures were unseasonably warm most of the month. Land preparation and fall seeding activities made good progress in most areas.

Cotton picking has progressed rapidly under generally favorable conditions. At the end of the month 75 percent or more of the crop had been gathered. Practically all of the peanut crop has been dug, and threshing is getting well underway. Soybean harvest was getting underway around the first of the month. Good yields are expected in most producing areas although the average is expected to be slightly less than last year. Harvesting of the corn crop is general throughout the State. The crop generally is uniformly good throughout the State, and indications are that North Carolina will produce another record corn crop.

Most hay crops turned out above average yields despite relatively heavy losses due to rains during the cutting and curing season. Pastures are continuing to provide an unusually large proportion of livestock feeding requirements.

HIRED FARM LABOR DOWN SEASONALLY

Nearly a fourth fewer hired laborers were working on farms over the entire U. S. during the week of October 12-29 than a month earlier. This was a somewhat more than average seasonal drop. Family workers showed about the usual seasonal decline from the previous month. Total agricultural employment was 11,792,000 or 3 percent less than a year ago.

Wage rates for picking cotton up to the first of November averaged \$2.55 per 100 pounds of seed cotton. This was 35 cents lower than last year. Rates averaged the same as last year in Texas and California --

(Continued on Page 4)

TOBACCO PROSPECTS SLIGHTLY UP

Prospective production of all flue-cured tobacco in North Carolina increased slightly during the month of October. The November 1 estimate of all flue-cured tobacco is placed at 744,525,000 pounds, compared with 739,380,000 pounds produced last year and the 10-year average production of 673,715,000 pounds. Production of Type 11 tobacco was forecast at 263,375,000 pounds, the same as a month earlier. This is 5 percent less than production last year. Prospects for Type 12 tobacco also remained unchanged from the previous month. The estimate of 384,400,000 pounds is 3 percent above the 1948 crop. Final sales of Type 13 tobacco indicate production at 96,750,000 pounds. This is 1 percent above the forecast on October 1 and 8 percent above production a year ago.

The 1949 Burley tobacco crop was estimated on November 1 at 17,050,000 pounds, the same as a month ago. Such a production is 1½ percent less than the 1948 crop but 50 percent above the 10-year average.

CORN YIELD PROSPECTS IMPROVE

A record corn crop of 73,406,000 bushels is forecast for North Carolina as of November 1. The expected record crop is attributed to an estimated yield of 34 bushels per acre, which is 3 bushels higher than last year and 11 bushels higher than the 10-year 1938-47 average.

Harvesting of the 1949 corn crop on individual farms ranges from zero to completeness, with about half of the crop being reported as harvested over the entire State as of October 29. Machine harvesting in some areas has been difficult or impractical due to "down corn" caused by strong winds from tropical storms in September. Generally, the crop has been harvested under excellent weather conditions.

A national crop of 3,357,618,000 bushels was forecast as of November 1. This compares with 3,650,548,000 bushels produced in 1948. The current indicated U. S. yield per acre is 39.1 bushels compared with 42.7 bushels per acre last year. The indicated yield is the second highest of record, exceeded only by the 1948 crop.

TAR HEEL FARMERS RAISING THE LARGEST TURKEY CROP ON RECORD



Courtesy of N. C. Agricultural Extension Service

SOYBEAN PROSPECTS UP SLIGHTLY

Prospective production of soybeans for beans in North Carolina improved slightly during October. According to reports from growers as of November 1, the crop is currently expected to yield an average of 13.5 bushels per acre. This is one-half bushel higher than the October 1 estimate and is the same as the yield in 1948. Total production for this year is now set at 3,618,000 bushels from 268,000 acres. Last year, there were 264,000 acres harvested which produced 3,564,000 bushels.

Weather conditions in the state during the past month were generally favorable for the maturing of the crop. Harvesting in many of the heavier producing counties got underway during the last week of October.

In the United States, production from the 9,686,000 acres intended for harvest is now estimated at 215,222,000 bushels, comparing with a production of 220,201,000 bushels in 1948.

EGG PRODUCTION HIGHER

During October, layers on North Carolina farms produced 62 million eggs. The month's production was 1 million eggs below production for September but 8 million eggs above the corresponding month last year. This increase in the total egg production in the State is likely due to the increase in the number of layers on farms during the current year as compared to layers on farms during 1948.

The number of eggs produced per 100 layers in October is estimated at 815, a drop of 85 eggs per 100 layers below the rate of lay reported for the previous month, but an increase of 40 eggs per 100 layers over October of last year.

With the addition of young layers to the laying flocks the total number of layers on North Carolina farms climbed to 7,627,000 during the month. This is an increase of 622,000 layers over the number of layers reported for the previous month and 9 percent above the 7,004,000 layers on farms in October of last year.

PASTURE CONDITIONS ABOVE AVERAGE

On November 1 the condition of farm pastures averaged 87 percent of normal, which compares with a report of 78 percent of normal on the same date last year and established a new record condition for November 1. Pastures during the entire season have been somewhat above normal in all parts of the State, with most farmers reporting 1949 as one of the best years for pasture grazing.

PEANUTS UNCHANGED

The November 1 estimate of peanut production in North Carolina showed no change from the 266,200,000 pounds indicated earlier in the season. If this production is realized, it will mean an average yield of 1,100 pounds per acre from the 242,000 acres estimated for harvest this year. In 1948, the state produced 346,625,000 pounds from 295,000 acres for an average yield of 1,175 pounds per acre.

Weather conditions in the commercial peanut belt were favorable throughout October and digging was completed with practically no interruption. Conditions during the digging season were more favorable this year than have been experienced before in several years. Farmers are taking advantage of the continued clear weather and threshing is making good progress.

SWEET POTATO OUTLOOK UNCHANGED

Farmers' reports as of November 1 showed no change in sweet potato yields as compared with the estimate of a month ago. The production outlook for the State's 1949 crop now stands at 5,994,000 bushels. This would be a crop 6 percent greater than that produced in 1948. However, estimated production falls short of the 1938-47 average by 22 percent.

Current indications are for a yield of 111 bushels per acre, the lowest yield since 1945. The yield for 1948 was 115 bushels per acre, with the 1938-47 average being 106 bushels.

A total of 54,000 acres is estimated for harvest in North Carolina this year. This is an increase of 10 percent from the acreage harvested in 1948. Except for 1948, this is one of the smallest acreages planted to the crop in several years.

COTTON PROSPECTS DECLINE FURTHER

North Carolina's cotton prospects showed further decline with the November 1 report placing production at 450,000 bales (500-lb. gross weight). This is 20,000 bales below the estimate on October 1, 228,000 bales below the 1948 crop and 99,000 bales less than the 10-year (1938-47) average production.

The average yield of lint per acre is now estimated at 266 pounds, an 11-pound drop from the estimate of October 1. This is 181 pounds less than the average yield from the 1948 crop and 89 pounds under the 10-year average.

Weather conditions during October were favorable for picking cotton,

and harvesting of the 1949 crop has moved along rapidly. The month was cloudy a good part of the time, but rainfall was generally light and temperatures were unusually warm. Labor available for cotton picking has been somewhat more plentiful than during recent years in most cotton producing areas.

For the Nation as a whole, prospects were slightly better than last month's forecast. The November 1 estimate of the Nation's crop is 15,524,000 bales. This is about 4.4 percent greater than 1948 production and 37 percent above the 10-year average.

COTTON: ACREAGE FOR HARVEST, PRODUCTION AND GINNINGS

NOVEMBER 1, 1949

STATE	ACREAGE FOR HARVEST 1949 (PRELIM.)	LINT YIELD PER HARVESTED ACRE			PRODUCTION (GINNINGS) 500-LB. GROSS WT. BALES			GIN- NINGS TO NOV. 1
		AVER- AGE 1938- 1947	1948	INDI- CATED 1949	AVER- AGE 1938- 1947	1948 CROP	1949 CROP INDICATED NOV. 1	
	THOUS. ACRES	LB.	LB.	LB.	THOUS. BALES	THOUS. BALES	THOUS. BALES	(000)
N. C.....	813	355	447	266	549	678	450	323
MO.....	536	451	460	430	356	506	480	255
VA.....	32	348	447	300	22	24	20	11
S. C.....	1,203	309	372	219	716	871	550	464
GA.....	1,455	235	279	196	779	745	595	494
FLA.....	44	164	289	185	14	15	17	9
TENN.	804	368	417	388	523	670	650	411
ALA.....	1,755	262	353	231	901	1,197	845	729
MISS.....	2,726	318	441	259	1,588	2,353	1,470	1,087
ARK.....	2,384	334	428	328	1,329	1,982	1,630	1,001
LA.....	1,038	261	382	289	528	756	625	495
OKLA.....	1,158	163	175	224	521	374	540	235
TEX.....	10,296	170	176	261	2,722	3,150	5,600	3,204
N. MEX....	312	497	542	402	119	236	261	109
ARIZONA..	375	423	558	608	174	328	475	188
CALIF....	957	602	576	652	447	968	1,300	525
OTHER STATES...	19	413	432	406	16	15	16	6
U. S.....	25,907	254.0	313.1	287.6	11,306	14,868	15,524	9,544

INDICATED PRODUCTION OF PECANS UP FALL FRUIT CROPS BELOW AVERAGE

Based on conditions as of November 1, the 1949 pecan crop was estimated at 2,795,000 pounds. If the November 1 prospects materialize, the 1949 crop will be 43,000 pounds more than 1948, and about 288,000 pounds greater than the 1938-47 average.

Prospects for the North Carolina commercial apple crop declined slightly during October. Reports from commercial apple growers which are based on conditions as of November 1 indicate a commercial apple crop of 448,000 bushels, 54 percent less than the 1948 crop and 53 percent under the 10-year average. Harvesting of the commercial apple crop is well advanced in most commercial areas.

Although the commercial apple crop for North Carolina is the smallest in several years the 1949 commercial apple crop for the entire United States is placed at 133,388,000 bushels - 1½ times the short 1948 crop of 88,407,000 bushels and one-fifth above the average production of 111,114,000 bushels.

The November 1 estimated production of grapes at 4,500 tons compares with 5,600 tons in 1948 and the 10-year average production of 5,190 tons.

North Carolina's 1949 pear crop was estimated at 130,000 bushels as of November 1. This compares with a crop of 209,000 bushels in 1948 and the 10-year average of 301,000 bushels.

The total U. S. pear crop is estimated at 36.0 million bushels.

MILK PRODUCTION DECLINES

Milk production on North Carolina farms in October totaled 130 million pounds. This is 2 million pounds less than October of 1948, but 12 million more than the 10-year (1938-47) October average. Production during October of this year was 6 million pounds less than production during September.

Milk production per cow in herds is estimated at 362 pounds during October, as compared with 380 pounds in September and 372 pounds during October of last year. The number of milk cows on N. C. farms as of November 1 is estimated at 359,000, the same as a month earlier.

The seasonal decline in milk production from October to November 1 was about normal.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES
ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION OF CROPS 1948 AND INDICATED NOVEMBER 1, 1949

CROPS	UNIT	ACREAGE			YIELD			PRODUCTION		
		AVERAGE	HARVESTED	INDICATED	AVERAGE	1948	INDICATED	AVERAGE	REVISED	INDICATED
		1938-47#	1948	1949	1938-47		1949	1938-47	1948	1949
- THOUSAND -										
CORN, ALL.....	BU.	2,320	2,226	2,159	23.0	31.0	34.0	53,124	69,006	73,406
WHEAT, ALL.....	BU.	459	390	445	14.8	15.5	13.0	6,805	6,045	5,785
OATS.....	BU.	305	270	405	26.6	29.5	30.0	8,226	7,965	12,150
BARLEY.....	BU.	32	34	36	23.7	23.5	26.0	764	799	936
RYE.....	BU.	40	22	21	10.6	12.5	-	407	275	-
TOBACCO, ALL.....	LBS.	663	604	641	1,025.0	1,252.0	1,188	685,066	756,684	761,575
TYPE 11.....	LBS.	256	233	245	954.0	1,190.0	1,075	246,683	277,270	263,375
TYPE 12.....	LBS.	323	290	310	1,067.0	1,285.0	1,240	346,608	372,650	384,400
TYPE 13.....	LBS.	75	71	75	1,058.0	1,260.0	1,290	80,446	89,460	96,750
TYPE 31.....	LBS.	9	10	11	1,240.0	1,680.0	1,550	11,351	17,304	17,050
COTTON.....	LBS.	756	730	811	355	447	266	549*	678	450
IRISH POTATOES, ALL.....	BU.	83	71	62	110.0	148.0	127	9,128	10,508	7,874
SWEET POTATOES.....	BU.	73	49	54	108.0	115.0	111	7,714	5,638	5,994
SOYBEANS, FOR BEANS.....	BU.	212	264	268	11.8	13.5	13.5	2,505	3,584	3,618
SOYBEANS, GROWN ALONE.....	BU.	376	384	353	-	-	-	-	-	-
COWPEAS FOR PEAS.....	BU.	-	-	-	4.7	6.0	5.5	-	-	-
PEANUTS, GROWN ALONE.....	LBS.	291	314	254	-	-	-	-	-	-
PEANUTS, INTERPLANTED.....	LBS.	3	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
PEANUTS, PICKED & THRESHED.....	LBS.	274	295	242	1,124.0	1,175.0	1,100.0	305,596	346,625	266,200
HAY, ALL.....	TONS	1,215	1,230	1,179	.99	1.04	1.14	1,201	1,284	1,344
CLOVER & TIMOTHY.....	TONS	75	86	85	1.13	1.10	-	85	95	-
ALFALFA HAY.....	TONS	11	39	51	2.06	2.35	2.50	23	92	128
LESPEDEZA HAY.....	TONS	437	503	493	1.09	1.10	1.20	478	553	592
PASTURE CONDITION.....	%	-	-	-	84	85	87	-	-	-
PEACHES, ALL.....	BU.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,220	1,646	1,428
APPLES, COMMERCIAL.....	BU.	-	-	-	-	-	-	958	976	448
PEARS.....	BU.	-	-	-	-	-	-	301	209	130
GRAPES.....	TONS	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.1	5.6	4.5
SORGHUMS, FOR GRAINS.....	BU.	-	21	17	-	22.0	25.0	-	462	425
PECANS, ALL.....	LBS.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,507	2,752	2,795
UNITED STATES										
CORN, ALL.....	BU.	88,617	85,439	85,780	31.4	42.7	39.1	2,787,628	3,650,548	3,357,618
WHEAT, ALL.....	BU.	59,854	71,904	75,481	16.6	17.9	14.9	991,950	1,288,406	1,126,226
OATS.....	BU.	38,347	40,191	40,619	32.1	37.1	32.5	1,234,082	1,491,752	1,321,075
BARLEY.....	BU.	12,720	12,046	10,019	24.0	26.3	23.4	304,741	317,037	234,025
RYE.....	BU.	2,874	2,097	1,586	12.1	12.6	11.9	35,109	28,388	18,831
TOBACCO, ALL.....	LBS.	1,654	1,555	1,626	1,033	1,275	1,233	1,718,375	1,981,730	2,004,358
TOBACCO, FLUE-CURED.....	LBS.	971	883	941	1,011	1,233	1,198	989,925	1,089,584	1,128,455
COTTON.....	LBS.	22,015	23,110	26,380	-	-	-	287.6	-	15,524
IRISH POTATOES, ALL.....	BU.	2,730	2,099	1,898	145.5	212.4	203.8	393,403	445,850	386,832
SWEET POTATOES.....	BU.	711	514	524	89.7	96.9	99.9	63,626	49,806	52,284
SOYBEANS, FOR BEANS.....	BU.	8,025	10,311	9,686	18.7	21.4	22.0	148,381	220,201	215,222
COWPEAS FOR PEAS.....	BU.	-	-	-	5.4	6.4	6.2	-	-	-
PEANUTS, PICKED & THRESHED.....	LBS.	2,718	3,311	2,546	692	706	725	1,845,718	2,338,470	1,845,705
HAY, ALL.....	TONS	73,966	73,616	73,360	1.34	1.36	1.35	99,539	99,846	99,119
ALFALFA.....	TONS	14,731	15,014	16,719	2.18	2.27	2.26	32,217	34,083	37,725
CLOVER & TIMOTHY.....	TONS	21,607	21,995	20,290	1.36	1.33	1.27	29,575	29,309	25,678
PASTURE, CONDITION.....	%	-	-	-	75	78	81	-	-	-
PEACHES.....	BU.	-	-	-	-	-	-	68,947	65,352	75,114
APPLES, COMMERCIAL.....	BU.	-	-	-	-	-	-	111,114	88,407	133,388
PEARS.....	BU.	-	-	-	-	-	-	30,832	26,334	36,001
GRAPES.....	TONS	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,736	3,044	2,856
SORGHUMS, FOR GRAIN.....	BU.	6,292	7,298	6,020	16.0	18.0	21.9	102,398	131,644	131,784
PECANS, ALL.....	LBS.	-	-	-	-	-	-	110,620	177,667	130,215

* Includes Government purchases from unharvested acres in 1947.

* 500 lb. gross wt. bales.

FARM REPORT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Raleigh, N. C.

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NOVEMBER 1949

FARM REPORT

PAGE 4

FARM LABOR (Continued)

two States with very large cotton crops. In the other States decreases from last year in the picking rate ranged from 15 cents in Arizona to \$1.10 in Mississippi.

Total U. S. farm employment during the week of October 23-29 was below a year ago in every area but the Mountain States. This region had a very slight increase. The West North Central States showed the sharpest drop from 1948. The pattern for family workers was about the same as for total employment with the Mountain States having an increase and the other regions decreases. Seven percent fewer hired workers were on farms than a year earlier. The East North Central region was the only area with more hired workers, while in New England there was no change. For the other regions, the decreases ranged from 1 percent in the Mountain States to 17 percent for the South Atlantic States.

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER BELOW SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR

Commercial slaughter of livestock in North Carolina, including slaughter under Federal inspection and other wholesale and retail slaughter, but excluding farm slaughter, increased during September in the case of number of head and pounds of cattle and hogs slaughtered. The number of calves and sheep and lambs slaughtered during September was less than August.

In comparing the first nine months of this year with the corresponding period last year, the number of head slaughtered was down for each species by the following percentages: cattle 35.4 percent; calves 42.9 percent; sheep and lambs 34.4 percent; and hogs 5.1 percent.

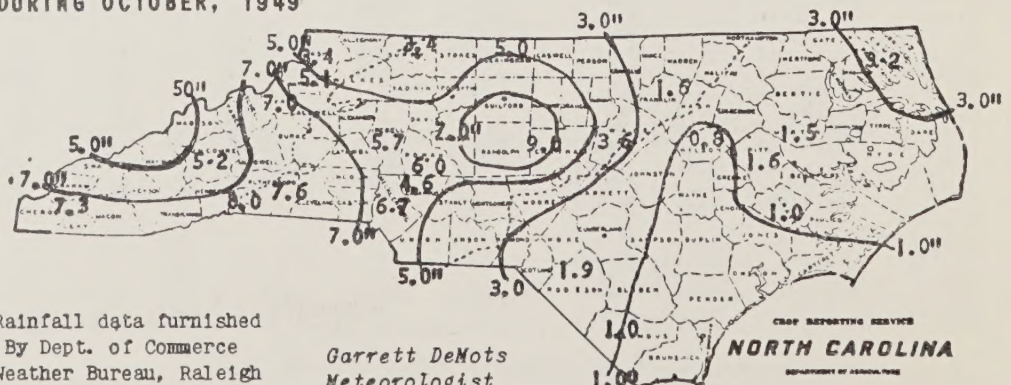
NORTH CAROLINA LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

SPECIES	SEPTEMBER				JANUARY-SEPTEMBER TOTAL			
	NUMBER SLAUGHTERED		TOTAL LIVELWEIGHT		NUMBER SLAUGHTERED		TOTAL LIVELWEIGHT	
	1948	1949	1948	1949	1948	1949	1948	1949
	THOUS. HEAD	THOUS. HEAD	THOUS. LBS.	THOUS. LBS.	THOUS. HEAD	THOUS. HEAD	THOUS. LBS.	THOUS. LBS.
CATTLE....	12.3	8.2	9,586	7,023	91.0	58.8	69,598	48,326
CALVES....	10.2	5.1	1,788	913	103.3	59.0	15,913	9,669
SHEEP & LAMBS...	.4	.2	31	13	3.2	2.1	277	172
HOGS.....	30.0	31.0	6,784	6,897	254.0	241.0	55,726	53,566

OCTOBER WEATHER SUMMARY

The month of October was, on the whole, unusually warm in all areas of North Carolina. When cooler air masses were able to reach the State, they had lost much of their freshness. There were two periods from the 6th to the 13th and 21st to the 27th, which were outstanding because of their warmth. Temperatures in the 80's were common on many of those days in central and eastern sections. The weather was ideal for outdoor work as rain was light and infrequent during most of the month, except some heavy amounts fell over the central and southern Piedmont on the 6th and 7th. Heavy showers developed again in all areas near the end of the month. Total rainfall amounts for October were below normal in much of the Coastal Plains, but elsewhere amounts ranged from about normal to as much as 4 or 5 inches above.

NORTH CAROLINA INCHES OF RAINFALL DURING OCTOBER, 1949



Rainfall data furnished
By Dept. of Commerce
Weather Bureau, Raleigh

Garrett DeMots
Meteorologist

CROP REPORTING SERVICE
NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE